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Selkirk County Council

INSTITUTIONAL MEDICAL  
MUSEUM

10, PARK ROAD,  
OXFORD

# REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

Year 1951



Selkirk County Council

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# REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

Year 1951

# LIST OF STAFF

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## *Sanitary Inspectors—*

ARCHD. S. MACVEY, A.R.San.I.....County Area  
ROBERT G. BRUCE.....Burgh of Galashiels  
THOMAS BEATTIE, F.I.A.A.....Burgh of Selkirk

## *Nursing Staff—*

Burgh of Galashiels—Misses M. F. BATHGATE, C. PATERSON  
(succeeded in May by A. L. MARCHBANKS), M. A. THOMSON  
(succeeded in October by N. L. ROTHNEY), and J. B. SCOTT.  
Burgh of Selkirk—Misses CHEYNE and MORRICE.  
Landward Area—Miss M. A. HARRIMAN.

## *County Analyst—*

A. SCOTT DODD, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., F.R.S.E.

## *Administration—*

Joint Staff of County Education and Public Health Office.

## *County Medical Officer—*

G. M. ELLIOTT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

# SELKIRK COUNTY COUNCIL

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## REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1951

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To the Convener and Members of the  
County Council of Selkirk

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1951.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

**Population.**—The population estimated to the middle of the year was 21,868, a decrease of 158 as compared with 1950.

**Births.**—The number of births registered, after correction for transfers was 332, 165 males and 167 females, giving a birth rate of 15.2 per 1000. There were 16 illegitimate births being equal to a rate of 4.8 per 100.

**Marriages.**—The marriage rate was 5.5 per 1000 of population.

**Deaths.**—After correction for transfers, the number of deaths in the county was 336, 152 males and 184 females, giving a corrected and adjusted death rate of 15.4 per 1000 of population. The death rate per 1000 in 1950 was 15.0.

The causes of death from different diseases were as follows:—

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2
Tuberculosis—other forms	1
Syphilis and its sequelae	1
Whooping Cough	1
Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	1
Malignant Neoplasms	50
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1
Diabetes Mellitus	4
Other General Diseases	3
Vascular Lesions affecting Central Nervous System	55
Nonmeningococcal Meningitis	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	10
Rheumatic Fever	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1
Arteriosclerotic and Degenerative Heart Disease	97
Other Diseases of Heart	8

Hypertension with Heart Disease	2
Hypertension without Heart Disease	1
Other Circulatory Disease	8
Influenza	1
Pneumonia	18
Bronchitis	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2
Appendicitis	1
Gastritis and Duodenitis	1
Diarrhoea (except of newborn)	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1
Other Digestive Diseases	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4
Other Diseases of Genito Urinary System	4
Puerperal Sepsis including Post Abortive Sepsis	1
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Locomotion	1
Congenital Malformations	3
Birth Injuries, Post Natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	2
Pneumonia of Newborn	1
Other Diseases Peculiar to Early Infancy	6
Senility	13
Causes Ill-Defined and Unknown	3
Other Violence	10

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336

**Infantile Mortality.**—The infantile mortality rate for 1951 was 48 per 1000 total births as compared with 33 in 1950.

There are seven Health Visitors available for service in the County, and these Health Visitors are engaged also in Midwifery and Home Nursing duties. The Health Visitors are responsible for attendances at the Clinics provided by the County Council.

Two Child Welfare Clinics are operated by the County Council, one in Galashiels and one in Selkirk. In Galashiels the Child Welfare Centre has two sessions each week. At least three Health Visitors attend the Clinic. In Selkirk the Child Welfare Centre has been held in the Victoria Hall by kind permission of Selkirk Burgh Council as Thornfield is still under re-construction.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

During 1951 267 immunisations were notified as having been completed, and 25 booster doses were given.

The following table shows the number of vaccinations completed during the year:—

Year of Birth of persons	Number of persons primarily vaccinated during period				Number of persons re-vaccinated during period				Number of persons specially reported during period because of actual or alleged complication of vaccination
	Typical vaccina greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local Reaction	Typical vaccina greatest at 7th-10th day	Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th-7th day	Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	No local Reaction	
1951	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	69	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1949	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1947	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1945	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1941	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1940	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1938	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1937	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1936 or earlier	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	—
Totals	157	—	—	4	1	—	1	5	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) notified; and the number of cases removed to hospital during 1951:—

	Notified	Removed
Scarlet Fever .....	5	5
Erysipelas .....	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia .....	2	2
Whooping Cough .....	6	1
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 10

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The following patients were on the Council's Register as at 31st December, 1951:—

	Males	Females
Boarded-out defectives with private guardians of whom one male is chargeable to another area .....	6	4
Boarded-out defectives in Local Authority Homes and other accommodation provided under Part III. of the Assistance Act, 1948	—	2
Defectives in Certified Institutions .....	6	12
Mental defective children in Mental Hospitals pending vacancies in Certified Institutions	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total *	12	19

\* Resident within the County      8  
     Resident outwith the County      4

Accommodation in Certified Institutions is practically unobtainable and there is at present a waiting list of cases resident in the County who should be receiving treatment in Institutions. All defectives under guardianship are well cared for and properly supervised. They receive regular visitation by medical and authorised officers. Allowances to guardians average 30s. per week and in addition all necessary clothing and bedding is supplied. There are three authorised officers in the County who co-operate with the local medical practitioners in all matters relating to the mental health service.

### St. Mary's Certified Institution.

This Institution is now fully operative and provides accommodation for thirty high-grade female defectives over school age. This Home is privately owned and is under the control of the Roman Catholic Author-



ities. The patients are admitted from all parts of Scotland and receive the best of attention and treatment from a qualified staff of Sisters of Mercy. One of the local medical practitioners acts as medical officer and visits regularly. Furnishings and fittings are modern and tasteful and there is no doubt that this Home is an asset to the work amongst the mentally deficient.

### **Children's Home.**

"The Priory," Selkirk, is a home jointly owned by Berwickshire and Selkirk County Councils. At 31st December, 1951, there were 28 children being cared for in the Home—19 boys and 9 girls. Included in this total are three infants under one year of age. The health record of the children during the year has been very good. Dr E. H. Duff acts as medical officer and visits regularly.

This Home has been extensively altered and renovated during the year and the internal alterations are now nearing completion. Modern bathroom and lavatory accommodation has been fitted. The rooms are bright and airy and the Home has a very happy atmosphere. The staff are kept very busy and deserve great credit for their work.

### **Eildon View Home, Galashiels.**

This Home is jointly owned by Selkirk and Peebles Counties and has accommodation for approximately 32 residents of both sexes. There has been a daily average of 30 residents during the year. At 31st December there were 16 males, 9 females and 4 young persons and children accompanied by a parent. The Joint Committee has decided to convert the old "casual" wards into a house for staff whenever the Assistance Board gives up its claim to this accommodation. It is hoped to commence this work early in 1952. The children in residence are members of a "homeless" family awaiting re-housing and they have been promised a house by the Town Council at an early date.

The Home is now furnished and equipped in accordance with modern ideas and the residents are very well cared for and very comfortable. The bedrooms have been redecorated and tastefully furnished. Dr Henderson acts as supervisory medical officer and visits the Home regularly.

### **Boleside House.**

This modern old people's Home has been very popular since it was opened and is now fully occupied—10 males and 12 females. There is always a waiting list for admission. The Home is the property of Selkirk County Council and a trained nurse is in charge as Matron. The residents are attended by their own medical practitioners.

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## RETURN OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING YEAR IN WHICH DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

Number of Cases Diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis.										
		Age-Groups								
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	1	7
	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	2	1	9
	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	4	2	16
Non-Respiratory	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Respiratory and Non-respiratory	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	2	1	8
	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	2	1	10
	—	1	—	—	3	7	1	4	2	18

# RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES WITH THEIR HOME RESIDENCE IN THE AREA WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

		Number of Patients					In Institutions on December 31
		In Institutions on January 1	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the Institutions		
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Respiratory	Adults { Males Females	5	6	3	1	—	7
		8	6	3	—	—	11
	Children { Males Females	—	1	—	—	—	1
		—	—	—	—	—	—
	Adults { Males Females	1	—	—	—	—	1
		—	1	—	—	—	1
Non-respiratory	Children { Males Females	1	—	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	15	14	6	1	1	21

# I. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

## (1) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Service.

	No. of clinics* provided at end of year whether held at Child Welfare Clinics or other pre- mises	No. of women who attended at the Clinics during the year	Total No. of attendances made by women during the year
I	2	3	4
Local Authority Clinics			
Ante-natal Clinics	—	—	—
Post-natal Clinics	—	—	—
Clinics provided by Voluntary Organisa- tions			
Ante-natal Clinics	—	—	—
Post-natal Clinics	—	—	—

## (2) Child Welfare Clinics.

	No. of clinics* provided at end of year	No. of children who first at- tended the clinics during year and who on the date of their first at- tendance were:—†		Total No. of attendances made during year by child- ren who at end of year were:—	
		under 1 year of age (3)	over 1 year of age (4)	under 1 year of age (5)	over 1 year of age (6)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Local Authority Clinics	2	157	144	1457	662
Clinics provid- ed by Volun- tary Organisa- tions	—	—	—	—	—

Notes—\*“Clinics” means Clinic premises, not sessions.

† Excluding children who attended during the previous year or who are known to have previously attended a clinic in another district.

### (3) Dental Care.

	No. inspected by Dental Of- ficers during the year	No. found to require treat- ment during the year	No. accepting treatment during the year	No. actually treated by Dental Offi- cers during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Expectant Mothers	—	—	—	—
Nursing Mothers	—	—	—	—
Pre-School Child- ren	—	—	—	—

### (4) Mother and Baby Homes.

(1)	Number of beds		Number of cots (4)
	Ante- natal (2)	Post- natal (3)	
Homes or Hostels provided by the Authority	—	—	—
Homes or Hostels provided by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—

(5) Day Nurseries (including 24-hour nurseries) as at end of year.

(1)	State whether approved for training (2)	No. of approved places		No. of children on register at end of year		Average daily attendances during year		Waiting lists at end of year	
		0-2 (3)	2-5 (4)	0-2 (5)	2-5 (6)	0-2 (7)	2-5 (8)	0-2 (9)	2-5 (10)
Nursery provided by Authority— Day Nursery, Scott Park, Galashields	Yes	10	30	10	30	7.69	24.3	16	15
Nurseries provided by Firms of Manufacturers— Gibson & Lumgair, Ltd., St. Mary's Mill, Selkirk	No	1	9	1	9	1	8	—	10

**(6) Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes provided as part of the Authority's arrangements under Section 22 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.**

Name and Address of Nursery or Home (1)	Whether provided by Authority or by Voluntary Organisation (2)	No. of Beds provided at end of year for Children		
		Aged 0-2 (3)	Aged 2-5 (4)	Others (5)
—	—	—	—	—

**(7) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.**

Details of work done by the Authority during the year.

(1)	No. of applications received (2)	Number of certificates				No. of children being cared for at end of year (7)	No. of inspections made (8)	No. of cases in which no inspection made (9)
		Issued (3)	Refused (4)	Cancelled (5)	In force at end of year (6)			
1. Nursery premises	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	—
2. Child-Minders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**II. MIDWIFERY**

- (i) Total No. of births occurring in the area during year—that is before correction for mother's residence:—  
     Live Births, 429      Still Births, 11      Total 440
- (ii) Total No. of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes), 410
- (iii) No. of births in (i) occurring at home, 22:—  
     Live Births, 19      Still Births, 3      Total 22
- (iv) No. of births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:—

(1)	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947			Other domiciliary cases			Total
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement (2)	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement (3)	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) (4)	Doctor and midwife engaged (5)	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) (6)	Without doctor or midwife (7)	
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private practising midwives .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Totals .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(v) **Medical Aid.**

(a) No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 22 (1) of the Midwives (Scotland), Act, 1915, by a Midwife:—

	Total
(i) for Domiciliary Cases	Nil
(ii) for Institutional Cases	

(b) No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year for cases where the medical practitioner had agreed to provide maternity medical services under the National Health Service—Nil.



(vi) **Administration of Analgesics.**

(a) No. of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland (including superintendents, non-medical supervisors of midwives, midwife teachers, midwives employed by the local health authority and by voluntary organisations, private practising midwives, and hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases under arrangements made by the local health authority and the Regional Hospital Board but excluding pupil midwives undergoing training on the district)	Nil
(i) No. in (a) employed on local health authority work	Nil
(ii) No. in (a) not employed on local health authority work	Nil
(b) No. of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year	Nil
(c) No. of sets of Apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31st December, 1951	2
(i) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)	Nil
(ii) No. in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work	Nil
(d) No. of sets on order at 31st December, 1951	Nil
(e) No. of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)	Nil
(f) No. of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases)	Nil

(vii) **No. of Cars in use by midwives at 31st Dec., 1951** 3

### III. HEALTH VISITING.

	No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors (or by District Nurses in their capacity as Health Visitors) during the year										
	Expectant Mothers*		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the ages of 1 and 5		Tuberculosis Cases		Other Cases		Total visits Paid
	First Visits† (2)	Total Visits (3)	First Visits† (4)	Total Visits (5)	First Visits† (6)	Total Visits (7)	First Visits† (8)	Total Visits (9)	First Visits† (10)	Total Visits (11)	
(1)											(12)
Health Visitors employed by the Authority	18	89	324	1377	205	1725	—	—	—	—	3738
Health Visitors employed by Voluntary Organisations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Notes:— \*These visits exclude visits paid by a midwife-health visitor who attended the confinement as a midwife or maternity nurse. †This figure excludes cases visited during the previous year and cases known to have previously been visited in another area.

#### IV. HOME NURSING.

	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses (or District Nurses) in their capacity as Home Nurses) under arrangements made under this Section.	No. of Visits paid by Nurses to these Cases.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Home Nurses employed directly by the Authority	1023	15324
Home Nurses employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—

#### V. DOMESTIC HELP.

(i) No. of Domestic Helps employed at end of year	39
(a) whole-time	—
(b) part-time	39
(c) Retaining fee basis	—
(ii) No. of cases for which Helps were provided during year	67
(iii) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement:—	
(a) at home	1
(b) in hospital	5
(iv) Average period of assistance	23 weeks

This service meets a real need in the community. A great variety of cases have been dealt with during the year. It will be noted that the average period of attendance has increased. This is caused by the number of aged persons who are in receipt of the services of a Help. These cases are more or less permanent. In many cases such help avoids the removal of people to a local authority Home. The District Nurses visit and report periodically on the cases where Helps are in attendance. Helps are granted on the recommendation of local medical practitioners.

#### SELKIRK COUNTY COUNCIL

Report of the School Medical Officer for the year ended  
31st July, 1951.

#### General Statistics.

Population of the area 22,026 (at 30th June, 1950).

Number of Schools:—

(a) Primary (under Education Authority)	19
(b) Secondary (under Education Authority)	2
(c) (i) Special Schools	—
(ii) Special classes in ordinary schools	1
(d) In receipt of grant from Education Authority and under medical inspection	—
Number of children on the registers, <i>i.e.</i> , for whole area	2824
Number of children in average attendance	2611 (92.5%)

### Sanitary Condition of Schools.

Painting and minor repairs were carried out at the following schools during the period from September, 1950, to July, 1951:—

<i>Galashiels</i>	<i>Selkirk</i>	<i>County</i>
Academy	Knowepark	Lindean
Burgh	Roman Catholic	Caddonfoot
Ladhope		Yarrow
		Ashkirk

### Organisation and Administration—

Arrangements are made through the Education Office for routine medical inspection at the various schools. The Headmaster of the school is informed of the age groups of children to be examined and he returns to the office the heights and weights of these children recorded at the beginning of the winter session. This information is transferred to the medical record cards of the children before examination. Any children who are found on examination to be requiring treatment (other than eye and dental treatment) are referred by letter to their own doctor.

The eye cases are given a form which is taken home for completion by the parent, and then returned to the Headmaster who transmits the completed forms to the Education Office, where arrangements for treatment are made.

All children suffering from minor diseases are sent direct by the Headmasters to the School Clinics in Galashiels and Selkirk where treatment is carried out at regular sessions.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and co-ordination between the Public Health Service and the School Service is thus extremely close. The staff of the Public Health Office is combined with that of the Education Office.

The Orthopaedic Services are being carried on under the new National Health Act as they were previously.

During routine medical inspection parents are encouraged to be present especially at the examination of entrants, and in the area (except

the rural area where parents are unable to get to the schools easily) attendance of parents is quite satisfactory. Parents usually come to inspections if their child is suffering from a condition about which they want advice.

Total number of children examined at Systematic Examinations:—

### Ordinary Schools

	Boys	Girls	Total
Entrants .. ....	132	133	265
1941 Age Group .. ....	112	99	211
1937 Age Group .. ....	94	120	214
1934 Age Group .. ....	23	9	32
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	361	361	722

Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations, who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental caries):—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Entrants .. ....	21	10	31
1941 Age Group .. ....	23	18	41
1937 Age Group .. ....	8	13	21
1934 Age Group .. ....	3	—	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	55	41	96

Number of children examined for Visual Acuity and Hearing only:—

Boys	Girls	Total
142	142	284

Number of children re-inspected:—

Boys	Girls	Total
20	25	45

Number of children inspected in special class:—

Boys	Girls	Total
9	1	10

Average height, weight and age of children examined in each group:—

	Boys.		
	Age	Weight	Height
Entrants .. ..	5 5/12	41 lbs.	42 ins.
1941 Age Group ..	9 7/12	64 lbs.	52 ins.
1937 Age Group ..	13 8/12	92 lbs.	59 ins.
1934 Age Group ..	16 8/12	123 lbs.	64 ins.
	GIRLS.		
	Age	Weight	Height
Entrants .. ..	5 5/12	40 lbs.	41 ins.
1941 Age Group ..	9 6/12	63 lbs.	49 ins.
1937 Age Group ..	13 9/12	94 lbs.	62½ ins.
1934 Age Group ..	16 9/12	124 lbs.	64 ins.

**Table II.**  
**SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.**  
Return of number and percentage of individual children suffering from particular defects:—

Nature of Defect	Entrants		1941 Group		1937 Group		1934 Group		Total		% of all children examined
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
1. Clothing unsatisfactory ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%
2. Footgear unsatisfactory ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%
3. Cleanliness—											
Head—Dirty ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nits or Vermin ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Body—Dirty ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Verminous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%
4. Conditions of Skin—											
Head—Ringworm ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Impetigo ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Others ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Body—Ringworm ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Impetigo ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scabies ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Others ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	0.3%
5. Nutrition—Slight Bad ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.3%
6. Mouth and Teeth unhealthy ..	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	3	0.8%

Table II.—Continued.

Nature of Defect	Entrants Boys	Entrants Girls	1941 Boys	1941 Girls	1937 Boys	1937 Girls	1934 Boys	1934 Girls	Boys	Girls	Total	% of all children examined
7. Naso-Pharynx— Nose—Observation Treatment Others	3 1 —	— — —	— — —	1 1 —	— — —	2 — —	— — —	— — —	3 1 —	3 1 —	6	
Throat—Observation Tonsils—Treatment	5 11	10 8	2 2	3 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	7 13	13 9	20	
Glands—Observation Treatment	— —	1 —	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	1 —	1 —	2	7.2%
8. External Eye Diseases— Blepharitis Conjunctivitis Corn. Opac. Strabismus Others	— — — 1 —	— — — — —	— — — 1 —	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — 1	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — 2 —	— — — — 1	3	
Visual Acuity— Without glasses With glasses For refraction	— — —	— — —	2 2 —	5 3 —	— — —	— — —	2 — —	4 2 —	4 2 —	9 5 —	14	3.2%
9. Ears—Diseases—Otorrhoea Others Hearing—Grade I. Grade IIA. Grade IIB. Grade III.	— — 1 1 —	— — 2 — —	— — 2 1 —	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — 1 — —	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — 3 1 —	— — 3 1 —	4	1.1%

Fair Vision, 16; Bad Vision, 7.



Table II.—Continued.

Nature of Defect	Entrants		1941 Group		1937 Group		1934 Group		Total		% of all children examined
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
10. Speech— Defective Articulation .... Stammering .....	2 —	1 —	— 1	— —	— 2	— —	— —	— —	2 3	1 6	0.8%
11. Mental and Nervous Conditions— Backward (extrinsic) .. Dull (intrinsic) .....	2 —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —	3 —	— —	
M.D. (educable) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
M.D. (ineducable) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nervous or unstable .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Difficult behaviour .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0.4%
12. Circulatory System— Organic (Congenital) .. Heart (Acquired) .....	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 2	— —	— —	— 1	— 2	
Functional Heart .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0.4%
13. Lungs—Chronic Bronchitis Tubercle (Suspected) .. Other Diseases .....	— 1 —	1 — —	— — 1	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 1 1	1 — 3	0.4%
14. Deformities— Congenital—(Infant. Par.) Acquired—Rickets (prob.) Others .....	— — 1	— — —	1 — 1	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — 2	— — 3	0.4%
15. Infectious Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%
16. Other Diseases or Defects .....	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	0.4%

Note.—A total of 722 children were examined, each child being examined for all the above groups. The figures given in the last column are percentages of 722.



**Table III.**  
**SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.**

Classification	Entrants		1941		1937		1934		Total	
	*(a)	*(b)	*(a)	*(b)	*(a)	*(b)	*(a)	*(b)	*(a)	*(b)
I. Children free from defects	231	87.2								
II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—										
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses; or	—	—	190	90.1	193	90.2	26	81.3	640	88.7
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment	—	—	6	2.8	15	7.0	6	18.7	27	3.7
(c) Both (a) and (b)	—	—	2	.9	—	—	—	—	2	.3
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	8	3.7	15	7.0	6	18.7	29	4.0
III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	29	10.9	9	4.3	3	1.4	—	—	41	5.7
IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II. or III., distinguishing cases—										
(a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible	1	.4	4	1.9	1	.5	—	—	6	.8
(b) Where improvement only is considered possible, <i>e.g.</i> , without complete restoration of function	4	1.5	—	—	2	.9	—	—	6	.8
Total	5	1.9	4	1.9	3	1.4	—	—	12	1.6
Total Number of Children Examined	265	100.0	211	100.0	214	100.0	32	100.0	722	100.0

\*(a) Number of Children.

\*(b) Percentage of children examined in this group.

TABLE IV.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

Disability	(L)	(M)	(N)	Total
1. Blind	—	—	—	—
2. Partially sighted:—				
(a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition	—	—	—	—
(b) Other conditions of the eye, <i>e.g.</i> , cataract, ulceration, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school	—	—	—	—
3. Deaf:—				
Grade I.	—	I	—	I
Grade IIa.	—	I	—	I
Grade IIb.	—	—	—	—
Grade III.	—	I	I	2
4. Defective Speech:—				
(a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures	3	—	—	3
5. Mentally Defective:—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70)	—	13	—	13
(b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50)	—	3	—	3
6. Epilepsy:—				
(a) Mild and occasional	I	—	—	I
(b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school)	—	—	—	—
7. Physically defective:—				
(Children between 5 and 16 years)				
(a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands)	—	—	I	I
(b) General orthopaedic conditions	7	—	—	7
(c) Organic heart disease	—	—	—	—
(d) Other causes of ill-health	—	—	—	—

(L) = At ordinary schools. (M) = At special schools or classes.

(N) = At no school or institution.

## EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

One girl and forty-three boys were examined with a view to being passed as fit to undertake certain forms of part-time employment under the Council's Byelaws. In every case a medical certificate was granted.

### EYE CLINIC.

The following figures relate to treatment carried out at the Eye Clinic from September, 1950, to July, 1951.

	Galashiels	Selkirk
No. of Clinics held	7	5
No. of cases treated	28	22
No. of cases for which glasses were prescribed	17	8

### MINOR AILMENTS.

Cuts, bruises, sprains and minor injuries, etc.	312
Diseases of the ear	10
Diseases of the eye, excluding defective vision	12
Diseases of the skin—	
Ringworm (Scalp)	—
X-ray treatment	—
Other treatment	—
Ringworm (body)	—
Scabies	2
Impetigo	7
Others	186

### MINOR DISEASES CLINIC.

	Galashiels	Selkirk
Number of Minor Diseases Clinics held	20	91
Number of treatments given for Minor Diseases	23	513
Number of treatments given for Scabies cases	—	6
Number of individual children treated for Scabies	—	2
Number of U.V.R. Clinics held	32	76
Number of U.V.R. treatments given	50	856

### ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

#### Galashiels—Sime Place Clinic—Session 1950-51

	Galashiels		Selkirk	
	School	Pre-School	School	Pre-School
Children				
No. on Register—				
September, 1950	121	90	88	28
New Cases	18	14	11	7
Discharged	10	6	4	—
Discontinued	1	6	—	—
Left District	6	3	—	2
From Pre-School Re-				
gister	17	17*	1	1*
No. on Register—				
July, 1951	139	80	95	32

\* To School register.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS CARRIED OUT FOR THE COUNTY DURING 1951.

	Positive	Total
Swabs from throat, nose and ear examined for <i>C. diphtheriae</i>	—	11
Swabs from throat, nose and ear examined for Haemolytic streptococci and other pathogenic organisms	—	16
Positive—Haemolytic streptococci—4		
Sputum examined for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> by the microscopic method	20	89
Urine, faeces and pus examined for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> by the microscopic method*	—	4
Laryngeal swab examined for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> by the microscopic method	—	1
Cultivation test for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> † (sputum and other specimens)	3	55
Animal inoculation for <i>Myco. tuberculosis</i> (sputum and other specimens)	—	3
Pus for general bacteriological examination	—	2
Urine for general bacteriological examination	—	2
Sputum for general bacteriological examination	—	1
Conjunctival smear for general bacteriological examination	—	1
Blood for Widal reaction (including <i>Br. abortus</i> agglutination test)	—	2
Blood-clot cultures from specimens submitted for Widal reaction	—	2
Faeces examined for organisms of <i>Salmonella</i> and dysentery groups	—	1
Paul-Bunnell tests for glandular fever	2	4
Blood for "Cold" agglutinins	—	1
Blood for Wassermann reaction	1	12
Syphilis flocculation tests—method of Bacteriology Department, University of Edinburgh	—	15
Syphilis flocculation tests—Kahn "verification" method	—	2
Penicillin sensitivity test	—	1
Staphylococcus coagulase test	—	1
Water specimens—bacterial count	—	53
Water specimens—presumptive test for coliform bacilli	—	53
Total water specimens examined—53		
Food specimen for general bacteriological examination	—	1
		333

\* After concentration of specimen. † Negative by microscopic method.

## A—MILK SAMPLES.

- (i) During the year ending 31st December, 1951, 133 samples were taken from 19 designated farm producers. Of these, 18 samples (or 13.53%) failed to comply with the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Orders 1936 and 1951. Analysis as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested samples	106 showing	17 failures
Standard samples	27     „	1     „
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	133	18

All failures were followed up at the farms concerned and advice given where necessary.

- (ii) 33 Samples were taken from 9 registered but non-designated dairies. These showed 6 failures to the Methylene Blue Reduction Test. The tests now carried out on non-designated milk are: Bacterial Count, Presumptive Coliform and Methylene Blue Reduction. The count and coli. results were found to be very favourable.
- (iii) 21 Pasteurised samples were taken from the Hillside Milk Depot of the Co-operative Society. These showed 2 failures to the Coliform test. All phosphatase tests passed.
- (iv) Samples were taken from 19 schools in the County during the year. These showed that samples taken on the same day either all passed or all failed. Follow-up work is difficult as some of the milk used for the schools comes from Midlothian, the rest from Roxburghshire. 17 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were also taken direct from the Creamery after bottling. 6 of these failed to comply with the Order.
- (v) 3 Biological samples were taken as follows:—  
     Sunnycroft—negative.  
     Ashlea Dairy—negative.  
     Caddonbank—result still to come.

## REPORTS BY SANITARY INSPECTORS, 1951.

### A—COUNTY AREA.

#### A. Cleansing and Scavenging.

As stated in my last year's report the disposal of Refuse from the Ettrickhaugh Road District is being successfully carried out by the Selkirk Town Council, and the same is being done at all the County Housing Schemes and Schools by the County Road Staff.

#### Water Supplies.

The supply to the Philiphaugh Special Water District is still satisfactory although much trouble has been caused by the sealing up of the surface of the sand filters so that water can hardly penetrate this skin and a constant watch is necessary to prevent shortage to the supply tanks. I am afraid that something will require to be done in the near future to remedy this trouble.



Clovenfords is of course supplied from the Galashiels supply and is very satisfactory.

Ashkirk, Yarrowford and Yarrowfeus supplies are now all in full working order and a plentiful supply of wholesome water is obtained from all the sources.

### **Sanitary Condition of Schools, etc.**

Inspections of all Schools, Factories and Workshops, and Burial Grounds have been made regularly and the conditions have always been found satisfactory.

### **B. Food Supply.**

#### **(1) Milk.**

The total number of producers in the County is 30. Of these 16 produce Tuberculin Tested Milk, 3 have Standard Licences and the other 11 produce Ordinary Milk.

There are 183 exempted premises in the County of which 22 have Attested Herds.

The S.C.W.S. Creamery has proved very satisfactory during the year and tests have much improved.

- (2) All conditions detailed in the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Order 1934, articles 4 to 14, have been complied with.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (3) (a) Number of retail purveyors of Milk          | 9   |
| (b) Number of producers who do not retail           | 25  |
| (c) Total number of cows in Registered byres        | 729 |
| (d) Dairies exempt from registration                | 183 |
| (e) Number of cows in registration                  | 362 |
| (f) Number of exempted premises with attested Herds | 22  |

- (4) 45 Samples of Milk were taken during the year and of these 3 proved to be deficient in butter fat or were otherwise adulterated, but owing to the cans not being sealed before leaving the producer's premises, action could not be taken. These 3 came from Roxburghshire and Berwickshire. It has now been decided that cans need not be sealed, so that I am of the opinion that all such samples will require to be taken at the producer's premises before being loaded on to the Lorries.

85 Samples were taken of T.T. Milk for Bacteriological Tests and of these 12 failed. 26 Samples of Standard Milk were taken, of which 1 failed.

3 Samples were taken of Non-designated Milk for Biological Testing for Tuberculosis, and of these there were no Positive results.

All dairies were inspected quarterly during the year.

**Ice Cream.**—There are now 9 licences for the manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream in the County, and there are 2 Vehicle Licences.

I have also kept a Register of 40 premises where there is Storage and Sale only.

22 Samples of Ice Cream were taken during the year and these have proved satisfactory.

(5) **Miscellaneous.**

122 Samples of foods were taken during the year, including 45 of Milk, 22 of Ice Cream and 55 of other foods and spirits. There were only 3 cases of adulteration of milk but as stated above action could not be taken.

**Nuisances.**

There were no complaints during the year.

**Infectious Diseases.**

As in previous years the disinfection of infected premises has been carried out by the driver of the Ambulance when the case is removed.

**Tents and Vans.**

85 inspections were made of these, and only in one case had I to complain of the boards in a Baker's Van.

Subsequent inspections have proved this is not having attention.

**Foods and Stores.**

I have made frequent inspections of all shops, etc., where foods are stored and have always found these well maintained.

**Rat Destruction.**

Several cases of houses being infested by rats were examined by me and these were always found to be very small infestations. Poison was supplied and the trouble ended.

ARCHD. S. MACVEY,  
*County Sanitary Inspector.*

**BURGH OF GALASHIELS.**

**Water Supply.**

The water supply is obtained from Knowesdean Reservoir which is supplied by the Caddon Burn and its tributaries. The water is of good quality. During the year a twenty-four hour supply to the burgh was maintained.

The average daily consumption was 813,000 gallons. This was 12,000 gallons per day above the average for 1950. The average daily consumption was 61.7 gallons per head per day after making allowance for water supplied to places outwith the burgh. (The equivalent figure for 1950 was 58 gallons per head per day. Part of the increase can be accounted for by the decrease in population shown by the 1950 Census figure:—12,496 as against the figure for the 1931 Census of 13,102).

The analyst's report on a sample of water submitted for chemical analysis was as follows:—

Laboratory of City Analyst,  
Edinburgh.

17th July, 1951.

Results of Analysis of sample of water received on 4th July, 1951.

One Imperial Gallon of this water contained the following ingredients.

The following results are expressed in grains.

Total Solid Matter	6.40	Nitrites	None
Organic and Volatile Matter	0.32	Saline Ammonia	0.002
Mineral Matter	6.08	Albumenoid Ammonia	0.002
Chlorine in Chlorides	0.71	Oxygen absorbed at 80° F. in	
Phosphates	None	4 hrs.	0.024
Iron	None	Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)	5.5
Lead or other Posionous		Temporary Hardness (Clark's	
Metals	None	Scale)	2.8
Nitrogen in Nitrates	None	p.H. Value	7.6

This water is clear and of good appearance. It is fairly soft and is, in my opinion, of satisfactory chemical purity free from any indication of contamination.

(Sgd.) A. SCOTT DODD.

Samples for bacteriological examination were taken at monthly intervals and the standard maintained was satisfactory. A typical report is as follows:—

**“ 14 Galabank Street ”—17th July, 1951.**

Bacteriology Department,  
University Buildings,  
Edinburgh.

**Report**—Number of viable bacteria per c.c. at 37°C—3  
Number of viable bacteria per c.c. at 22°C—4  
B. coli (37°C) absent from 100 c.c.

During the year 1,000 yards of new water mains were laid at the 5th Development of Gala Policies Housing Scheme.

### Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The burgh is drained by the separate system of sewerage, all sewers being maintained in duplicate. Surface water is discharged into the River at convenient points. The soil sewers have their outfall at the Sewage Disposal Works at Galafoot.

During the year routine maintenance of sewers was carried out, including scraping of smaller sections of the trunk sewer. An 800 yards section of the 24 ins. diameter trunk sewer from the Works to a point opposite Netherdale Mill was scraped by a firm of Specialist Contractors. This section had been silting up over a considerable period and the scraping removed over 8 tons of grit and other deposit which had been restricting flow in the sewer.

The sewer diversion near the Engine Sheds at Langhaugh mentioned in the report for 1950 was carried out and the defective section of sewer under the railway line by-passed.

Since electrification of the existing plant at the Sewage Works was completed, little progress has been made. The Consulting Engineers



have had the question of the mechanical removal of sludge under consideration but so far no really satisfactory method of carrying this out has been advanced.

The average daily flow recorded at the works was 1,645,660 gallons.

### Cleansing.

The twice-weekly collection of refuse continued during the year. The collection districts were completely revised and a new district introduced. The aim of completing all street collections by noon is now being achieved.

Quantities of refuse collected were as follows:—

<i>Domestic Refuse</i>	<i>Trade Refuse</i>	<i>Street Sweepings</i>	<i>Total</i>
2561 tons	705 tons	176 tons	3442 tons

In consequence of the limited space remaining at the Refuse Tip at Galafoot, steps were taken to obtain further ground suitable for use as a Tip. The attempts have so far been unsuccessful and to preserve Galafoot Tip for as long a period as possible it was, by order of the Town Council, closed to all Contractors and other persons in August.

The special collection of garden refuse was resumed in April and will continue in future from the middle of April till the end of October. The collection is now weekly in place of fortnightly as in previous years and is one which householders who have gardens appreciate, though our appeal to put out garden refuse in reasonable quantities often goes unheeded and results in needless friction with the collectors.

The Refuse Destructor continued to function efficiently during the year, although the question of obtaining suitable firemen caused some difficulty.

The Cleansing Vehicles were well maintained during the year though considerable trouble was experienced with one thirteen year old vehicle which is due for replacement in 1952.

Street sweeping continued on the beat system, the town being divided into ten beats. The question of employment of a mechanical street sweeper was investigated and a demonstration of one make of machine was arranged. While the demonstration was on the whole quite impressive, the question of economic employment of such a machine is a wide one and was left open for further investigation.

During the year the demand for salvage remained at a high level and no difficulty was experienced in disposing of all types of materials recovered. The demand for wastepaper in particular was reflected in the high prices offered by merchants. Special salvage collections were maintained and periodic reminders to the public made through the co-operation of the local newspapers. During the month of June a successful Book Drive was organised in co-operation with local Girl Guide Companies.

Salvage collected during the year totalled 328 tons valued at £4,114. Of this figure, wastepaper amounted to 262 tons valued at £3,878.

### Housing.

Fourteen houses were completed during the year. This completed the Gala Policies 4th Development. Work was continued on the 34

houses at Gala Policies 3rd Development and work was started on 16 houses of the Gala Policies 5th Development.

	2 apt.	3 apt.	4 apt.	5 apt.	Temporary 3 apt.
Erected prior to 1950	10	253	200	28	57
Erected during 1950	—	—	8	6	—
Under construction	—	10	34	6	—
	10	263	242	40	57

Tenders were received for a further 58 houses at Gala Policies 5th Development. Work was started on the site preparation work at Gala Policies 5th Development in April and during the year very good progress was made. By the end of the year a large part of the road formation work, the diversion of the Mossilee Burn and all sewers within the site had been completed.

In view of the delays in acquiring the Melrose Road site where the Scottish Special Housing Association are to build, they were authorised to build thirty houses at the Gala Policies 5th Development site. Building should commence early in 1952.

### Nuisances and Complaints.

Fifty-five nuisances and complaints were dealt with during the year. In thirty-five cases written intimation was given and in the remainder verbal notice.

The state of affairs in which the cost of property repairs is constantly rising while income from the properties remains constant is making it more difficult to obtain the co-operation of property owners in carrying out necessary work. In many properties having low rentals, essential work cannot be carried out within the income available.

### Offensive Trades.

The Skinworks in Wilderhaugh remains the sole offensive trade in the burgh. It continues to be satisfactorily maintained.

### Slaughterhouse.

The premises continued in use during the year. Following the comments on the condition of the premises in last year's report, the question of improvement has been under consideration. After meetings with representatives of the Department of Health for Scotland and the Ministry of Food, the Department of Health submitted suggestions on the improvements considered necessary. The Burgh Surveyor's estimate for the works, amounting to £3,000, has been submitted to the Department of Health for consideration.

### Food Inspection.

A total of 12 cwts. 54 lbs. of food was condemned, comprising:—

Tinned Foods	10 cwts. 84 lbs.
Other Foods	1 cwt. 82 lbs.

The quantity of tinned foods condemned has risen very considerably and is largely accounted for by imported tinned meats.

### **Factories.**

The number of factories on the Register is 174, made up of 48 mechanical and 126 non-mechanical factories. One hundred and fourteen inspections were carried out and written notices sent in twenty-one cases. In most cases lack of cleanliness was the cause for complaint.

Improvements in sanitary accommodation in factories continue to be made.

### **Shops.**

The Shops Inspector made regular inspections during the year. Some further progress has been made with improvement of sanitary accommodation in shops.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the burgh.

### **Houses Let in Lodgings.**

The Workmen's Hostel in Ladhope Vale is satisfactorily maintained.

### **Schools.**

The schools in the burgh continue to be well maintained. The sanitary accommodation at St. Peter's and Ladhope Schools is of a low standard and it is to be hoped that the financial commitments of the Education Authority will allow them to undertake improvements in the near future.

### **Burial Grounds.**

The four burial grounds in the burgh were well maintained during the year. The layout for the first section of the new cemetery at Heatheryett together with the necessary buildings was approved by the Town Council and submitted to the Department of Health for Scotland.

### **GALASHIELS SLAUGHTERHOUSE, 1951.**

<b>Animals Slaughtered</b>		<b>Animals Wholly Condemned.</b>	
Cattle	1241	Cattle	31
Sheep	4039	Sheep	85
Pigs	62	Pigs	4
Calves	981	Calves	7
<b>Partially Condemned</b>		<b>Weight (in lbs.) of Condemned Meat and Offals.</b>	
Cattle	367	Cattle	25009
Sheep	173	Sheep	6600
Pigs	9	Pigs	1074
Calves	9	Calves	608

Sanitary Inspector's Office, Galashiels, 27th March, 1952.

### **BURGH OF SELKIRK.**

#### **Water Supply.**

It was necessary to call upon the Contractors responsible for laying the new 12 ins. main to the Pumping Station to introduce a 12 ins. valve at the inlet to the pipe from the reservoir basin to the new well, and to repair a burst near Selkirk Bridge. Although this work was not excessive it took some months as the Contractors met difficulty after

difficulty, but eventually the work was satisfactorily completed. During the period of these works the emergency supply from Forest Mill Well was once again brought into operation and again provided sufficient to meet requirements. This year the owners of the well permitted a limited quantity to be drawn off constantly during the day, and this was gratefully accepted as it greatly reduced night work and assured a constant supply during the day.

The Pumping and Distribution systems both functioned satisfactorily, and only minor troubles were experienced. Heavy flooding in the Mill Lade during January caused debris to be washed into the turbine pit, thus choking the vanes, while in September, October and November the usual seasonal trouble with leaves was experienced and the turbine was again brought to a standstill. The auxiliary electric and diesel motors were brought into operation during these periods to maintain the supply. During the dry spell in the early summer the channel to the sluices in St. Mary's Loch were cleared and deepened to augment the flow to the river, and thus to the Mill Lade. At the end of July and August the Mill Lade was cleaned and cleared.

Samples of water taken throughout the year from various points in the town, and before and after filtration and chlorination, were all satisfactory.

The excellent waste figures which were obtained during 1950 were maintained throughout 1951 and at no time did they rise unduly. Day and night inspections revealed the usual crop of bursts and these were generally speedily repaired. Approximately 50 per cent. of those on supply pipes fell to the Local Authority to repair.

Several mains were scoured.

In November the water supply to the new Extension Area of Bridge Street and Cannon Street was transferred from Selkirk County Council system to the Burgh system, but the lack of water facilities in this area is such that there is no appreciable difference in the consumpt of the Burgh.

### Cleansing.

The routine of street sweeping, and the collection and disposal of Household and Trade Refuse continued as in previous years and proved on the whole to be sufficient. A new 12 cub. yd. Dennis vehicle with a Derby type body was brought into operation in September. Garden Refuse was removed every Saturday from the beginning of May till the end of November and as usual proved a very popular service.

Every effort was made to keep the Refuse Depot as satisfactory as possible but what has been said about this Depot in past years still stands. Luckily 1952 should see it completely filled.

A big effort was made with salvage throughout the year, particularly with the collection of waste paper. 134 tons were collected and the rising and excellent prices produced a high revenue. An astonishing factor in the paper collection was the abnormally high quantities produced by the shops and maintained throughout the year.



At the request of Selkirk County Council the refuse collection and disposal from Ettrickhaugh special cleansing collection was continued.

### **Sewers and Sewage Disposal.**

The sewage disposal works operated satisfactorily, and samples of the effluent revealed a reasonably high standard. The change of the course of Ettrick mentioned in last year's report continued and is proving a great help in diluting the effluent at its point of discharge.

During 1951 the many appeals to mill owners during previous years regarding the discharge of flue dust into the sewers appeared to bear fruit as on only one occasion was a discharge discovered. It was noticed as it entered the works and steps were immediately taken to have it dealt with. Considerable repairs were carried out on two of the percolating filters and further work is still necessary.

What was said last year regarding the sludge beds must be stated once again.

The new sewer and pumping plant dealing with the sewage from Philiphaugh Housing Scheme functioned without trouble. The septic tank which deals with the sewage from the Bridge Street and Cannon Street Extension Area is in a bad state and the effluent therefrom most unsatisfactory. Steps will require to be taken at an early date to deal with this, and the Town Council have the matter under consideration with the ultimate view of connecting this sewer to the new Bannerfield sewer mentioned above.

No trouble was experienced with the sewers apart from one serious choke at the Syphon Head at the Toll during a heavy rain storm. This was speedily cleared and little inconvenience was caused.

### **Slaughterhouse.**

This is still let as a furniture store although there have been inquiries regarding the possibility of it reverting to a slaughterhouse under the Ministry of Food, and to its use as an emergency slaughterhouse by a firm of Knackers.

### **General Inspections.**

Routine inspections revealed little of note apart from the usual minor nuisances for which verbal warning was generally sufficient. Throughout the whole year only four houses were found to be in a dirty condition, but in two of these old age and illness was the cause. Co-operation with the M.O.H. and the District Nurse soon improved matters in these cases.

### **Housing.**

Progress at Philiphaugh Housing Scheme was on the whole satisfactory during the year although a more fast rate of building would have been appreciated by the Council. 32 houses were occupied during the year. With a view to facilitate the letting of Council houses a Points Scheme was introduced and the necessary inspections resulting therefrom are in progress. The Town Council imposed closing orders on 2 houses after the necessary procedure had been followed.

### **Burial Grounds.**

These are being conducted and maintained in a satisfactory manner. A progressive scheme of road and path improvements has been instituted.

### **Schools.**

The five schools are being kept in good order. There have been improvements in the lavatory accommodation at one, and discussions are in progress regarding improvements at another.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are no Common Lodging Houses.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

Three cases of scarlet fever were notified and dealt with.

### **Offensive Trade.**

The one offensive trade, a Tannery, has now been converted entirely to the processing of skins. This work is conducted in a most excellent manner, and the proprietors are always seeking to improve their premises and methods of work.

### **Factories.**

Frequent inspections revealed nothing of note and no action was called for. Improved lavatory accommodation has been provided at one mill.

### **Food Premises.**

The various premises where food was prepared and sold were regularly visited and revealed on the whole a satisfactory standard of cleanliness, although occasionally it was necessary to bring pressure to bear on certain parties.

Condemnation of foodstuffs was on a very small scale and consisted of damaged tinned fruits.

### **Dairies.**

There are two premises where milk is bottled and two small cowsheds. These premises were kept in a clean condition.

### **Selkirk Hill.**

The camping ground on the Hill was as usual well occupied by campers and generally speaking the site was maintained in a clean and tidy condition.

### **Victoria Park.**

Water was laid on and conveniences provided in Victoria Park when the Shows were there during the Common Riding week.

### **Public Conveniences.**

The conveniences were well kept although they suffered from considerable damage from vandalism throughout the year.

The Council have acquired the site of the old Curling Pond as a car park and propose converting the clubhouse into ladies' conveniences.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. M. ELLIOTT,  
County Medical Officer.



30 JUL 1952